

**Governor's Commission on Family Farms
Berry Hill Mansion
Frankfort, KY
February 7, 2001 10:00 A.M.**

Members present: Jim Naive, Chairman; Bill Atkins; Alice Baesler; John Berry; Ron Catchen; Karen-Armstrong-Cummings; John-Mark Hack; Don Halcomb; Jeff Hall; Mark Haney; Kirby Hancock; Hampton "Hoppy" Henton; Denise Hoffman; Janet Johnson; Sylvia Lovely; Mattie Mack; Luther Mason; Al W. Pedigo; William Brandon Reed; Susan Goddard representing Secretary Allen Rose; Mike Stivers, representing Commissioner Billy Ray Smith; Bob Sparks and Bonnie Tanner.

Absent were: Sharon Furches; Susan Harkins; David Kash; Chris Kummer and John Medley, Jr.

Staff Present: Joel Neaveill and Angela Whitehouse

Guests included: Louie Rivers with Kentucky State University; Marion Simon with Kentucky State University; Sharon Burton with The Farmer's Pride; Jody Hughes with Department Workforce Development Services; Sarah Dryden with Burley Tobacco Growers Cooperative and Janet Patton with the Lexington Herald-Leader.

Chairman Naïve called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m., Angela Whitehouse board secretary called roll.

Minutes were approved from previous meeting.

Jim Naïve, Chair opened the meeting by stating the influence the commission has had on the progress of the Entrepreneurship Program and the contribution toward agricultural development. Mr. Naïve expressed the importance of the commission moving forward toward other priorities and suggested committees break into groups on scheduled commission meeting dates and reconvene as a whole board after lunch.

Bill Atkins recommended Sharon Burton with Farmer's Pride do an article on how the different boards work together and the impact they have on the future of the agricultural community.

Joel Neaveill, reviewed handout of the Kentucky Agriculture Resource Development Authority board meeting given by Sharon Furches, Chair. The Kentucky Agriculture Resource Development Authority meeting are posted on the website.

John-Mark Hack updated the Commission on the activities of the Agricultural Development Board. John-Mark stated the main goal is to get the agricultural community to think about long-term programs that will foster agricultural development. John-Mark informed members the next Agriculture Development board meeting would be February 16th at which time the Governor would announce the appointment of the new Director of the Entrepreneurship Program.

Kirby Hancock updated members on the Adair County applications being presented to the Agriculture Development Board for funding. Councils are looking at applications that do have long-term goals. Mr. Hancock stated major concern of county councils is who is responsible for following up on any funding to make sure money goes where it was allocated.

John-Mark Hack informed members that councils are not responsible for the approval of grants and that county councils must remember that the state board is the only entity held accountable. Proper use of money is more important than a short-term relief. Investing in a long-term plan for the future of agriculture takes further action in securing efforts of this project.

John-Mark Hack informed the Commission that the Agriculture Development Board guiding principals included in the handouts are available on the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy website. Anyone can obtain this information through the internet at any county library.

John Berry suggested the Agriculture Development Board make information not only available on the internet but a hard copy be available to legislature as well.

Don Halcomb questioned who actually is responsible for looking at applications and making recommendations for approving and declining funding.

John-Mark Hack stated the staff of the Entrepreneurship Program, Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy, Agriculture Development Board members and staff, and Kentucky Department of Agriculture along with the EconomicC Development Cabinet were involved in the review committee. It will be the responsibility of the State Agriculture Board to monitor where the money goes and how it is used.

Sylvia Lovely, CEO for the Kentucky League of Cities, and was recently announced as the President of the Partners for Family Farms announced they are hoping to work together with the Governor's Commission on Family Farms as well as with the other boards in the development of the future of agriculture.

John-Mark Hack motioned that the Commission go on record to recognize Hampton "Hoppy" Henton for eight years of service to the agriculture community as the State Director of the United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency.

Jim Naïve, Chair motioned all members in favor motion carried unanimous

Ron Catchen, Chair of the Education Committee announced that the Governor's Family Farm Education Summit would be meeting on April 4th in Frankfort. Mr. Catchen requested commission to invite two farmers to the education summit meeting for support of the Agriculture Summit Education committee.

Don Halcomb recommended Mr. Curtis Hancock farmer from Fulton, KY. John-Mark Hack recommended Mr. Wilson Stone of Scottsville, Ky. and Mr. Neil Hoffman of Booneville, Ky. Alice Baesler recommended Mr. Merrit Wade of Lexington, Ky. Commission agreed on these nominees.

John-Mark Hack announced the United States Department of Agriculture finalized protocol with China to export tobacco to China.

Mr. Hoppy Henton announced the tobacco referendum would start on Monday February 12th.

Jim Naïve, with board agreement announced the next meeting date for the Governor's Commission on Family Farms would be March 28th Committees would break into groups and meet before lunch. The whole board would meet after lunch.

With no further discussion the board adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

***All Handouts are available at the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy.**

